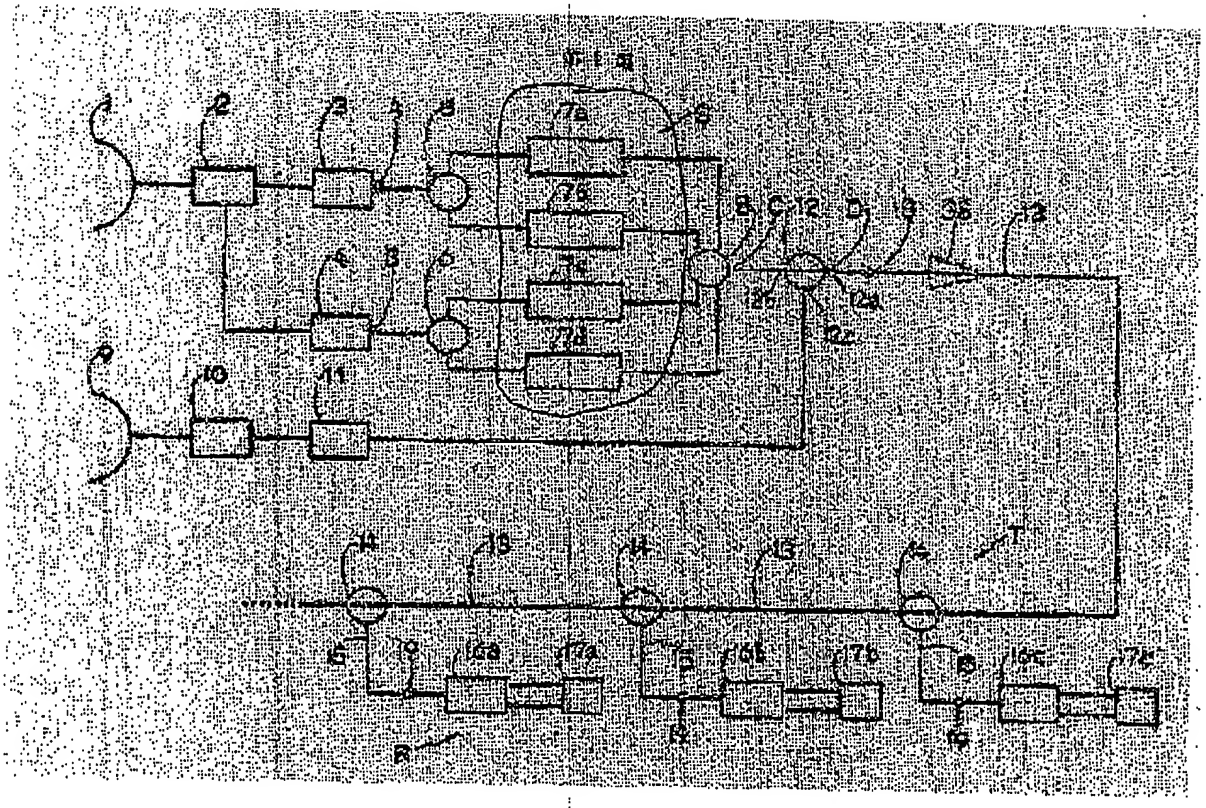
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants are, without prejudice and for purposes of expedition, submitting Terminal Disclaimers to obviate the various "double patenting" rejections. This leaves only the prior art rejection in view of Uemura (JP 2-140022) to address.

Applicants have invented a unique satellite receiving and distribution system that allows plural received blocks of satellite broadcasts to travel over a single cable. Applicants' independent claim 7 requires, in combination, a "at least one block converter coupled to the satellite receiving antenna, said block converter block-frequency-converting at least the first block comprising the first plurality of satellite broadcasts to a different frequency band ...." Similarly, applicants' independent claim 27 requires, in combination, "block-frequency-converting at least the first block comprising the first plurality of broadcast program signals to a different frequency band; and simultaneously applying both the block-frequency-converted first block and the second block to the same cable ...."

Unlike the applied prior art, applicants' system uses *block frequency conversion* (e.g., see item 28 in applicants' exemplary illustrative non-limiting disclosed implementation) to frequency-convert a block of plural satellite broadcasts. This allows two (or more) blocks of received satellite broadcast to be "stacked" onto the same cable.

A careful technical analysis of Uemura shows that Uemura takes an entirely different approach which does not anticipate applicants' claimed subject matter or make it obvious. Uemura discloses a "satellite signal reception system" that selectively frequency-converts incoming channels on a channel-by-channel basis to provide a system wherein "only the satellite signals of a desired channel are extracted and sent to the post stage" (see Translation at 3). To accomplish this separate channel-selective result, Uemura provides a number of "channel processors" 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d – one channel processor for each individual channel to be converted:



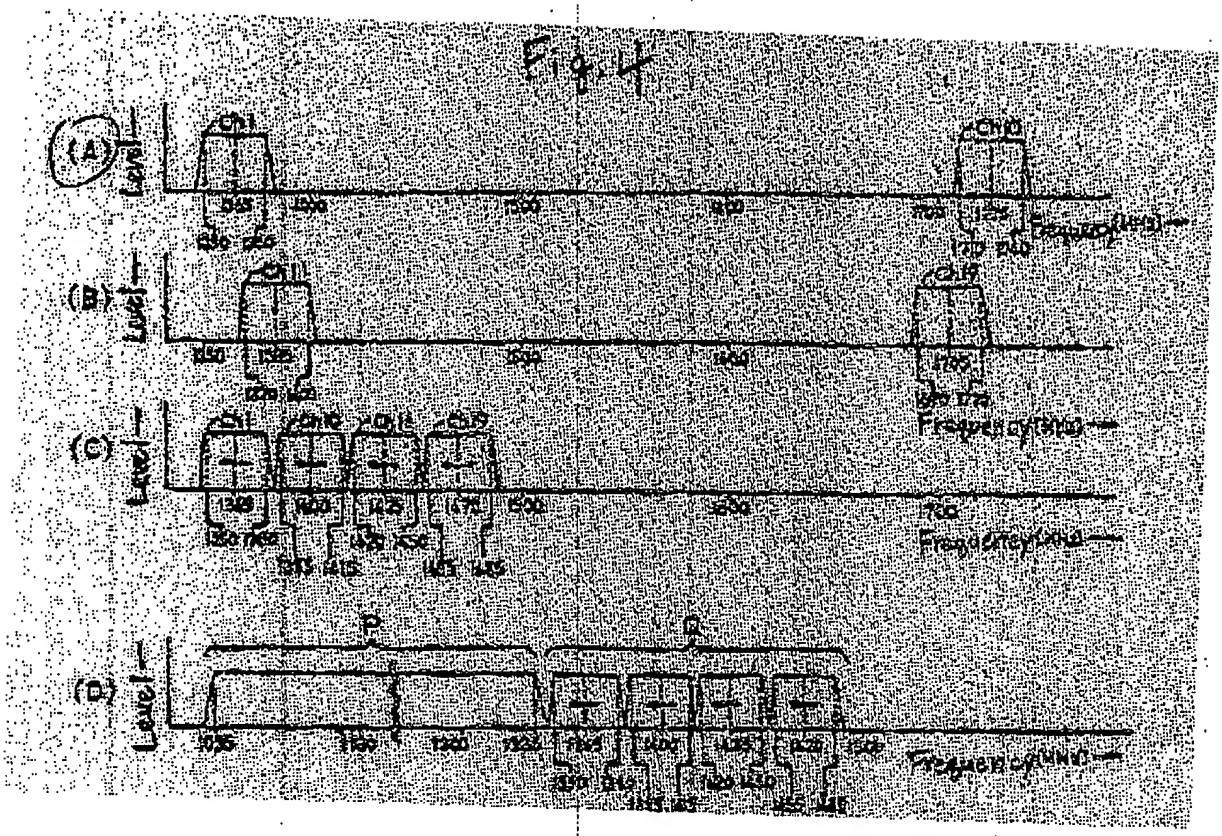
Uemura explains that each channel processor 7 selects and frequency-converts a single corresponding channel:

> "[i]n the channel processor 7a, the signal of channel Ch1 in Figure 4(A), for example, is selected and then frequency-converted. Similarly in the channel processor 7b, the signal of channel Ch10 in Figure 4(A), for example, is selected and then frequency-converted."

See also Table at page 12 of the translation.

Uemura's channel processors are band-limited so that they each pass only a single channel and block all other channels: "Reference numeral 25 represents a band-pass filter for passing, for example, a signal in the second intermediate frequency band of 385 to 415 MHz therethrough and blocking signals of the other bands." See translation at 7, and compare with Figure 4 showing individual channels CH1, CH10, CH11, CH19 each having a 30 MHz bandwidth.

Uemura's Figure 4 (reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience) shows an example of how Uemura's individual channel conversion system uses four respective channel converters to individually and separately convert four different channels (Channel 1 at 1365MHz first polarization, Channel 10 at 1725 MHz first polarization, Channel 11 at 1385 MHz second polarization and Channel 19 at 1705 MHz second polarization):



Uemura's individual-channel selection and frequency conversion approach does not teach or suggest applicants' multiple broadcast block conversion approach. Referring for example to Figure 5 of applicants' specification and the exemplary illustrative non-limiting implementation shown therein, applicants' LNB (24) has two outputs: one output contains channels that were originally horizontally polarized and the other output has channels that were vertically polarized. Both of these outputs are composed of channels in the 950-1450 MHz

frequency range. As they exist coming from the LNB (24), they can't be combined onto a single piece of coax due to the fact that they overlap in frequency. Item 14c serves to process these two outputs so that they will fit onto a single cable and not interfere with each other.

In applicants' disclosed exemplary illustrative non-limiting implementation, one of the outputs is fed to an amplifier (32a) which has a fixed amount of RF gain and the other output is fed to an up converter (30). The purpose of the up converter in applicants' exemplary illustrative non-limiting disclosed implementation is to translate the output at (26b) into an output now occupying the frequency band 1525 to 2025 MHz. These two RF signals, one occupying 950–1450 MHz and the other 1525-2025 MHz are then combined in what is called a "mixer" (36a) to create a waveform occupying the frequencies 950-2025 MHz. Following the "mixer" (36a) is a diplexer that allows adding VHF or UHF sources (i.e., so that three broadcast blocks can be placed on one cable in the illustrative non-limiting exemplary disclosed implementation).

Applicants' exemplary illustrative non-limiting disclosed "single wire" solution allows, for example, a range of received satellite to be carried over a single cable for selection by remotely located satellite receiver equipment in multiple dwelling units, multi-drop residential receiver installations (e.g., with one receiver in the bedroom and another in the living room or den) or other contexts

where two or more cables may in the past have been required. Applicants' multiple broadcast transmission block conversion approach is not taught by Uemura.

Should any issues remain, applicants request the Examiner to contact the undersigned representative and discuss by telephone or arrange a personal interview to avoid the need for any additional written action.

Respectfully submitted,

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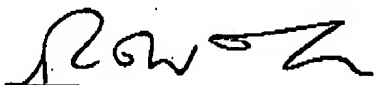
By: 

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